



• PRIORITY

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STATE/INR DIA NMCC/MC (SECDEF JCS ARMY NAVY AIR) CIA/NMCC NIC NSA SOO ONE CES
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SECRET

1159-177-4

DIST 1970

March

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1. COMMENT. ON 25 MARCH 1970
SANTIAGO RADIOS CARRIED ANNOUNCEMENTS THAT A NUMBER OF MILI-
TARY PERSONNEL HAD BEEN ARRESTED IN CONNECTION WITH A POS-
SIBLE COUP ATTEMPT.)

2. PRESIDENT EDUARDO FREI, GENERAL VICENTE
HUERTA (HEAD OF THE CARBINEROS), MINISTER OF INTER-

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APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE SEP 1999

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(classification)

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IOR PATRICIO R O J A S , AND LUIS J A S P A R D (DIRECTOR GENERAL OF INVESTIGACIONES) HAVE KNOWN FOR A MONTH THAT A MILITARY PLOT HAS BEEN IN THE MAKING. THEY HAVE FIRM EVIDENCE THAT GENERAL (R) HORACIO G A M B O A , FORMER HEAD OF THE SANTIAGO GARPISON, WAS HEADING THIS CONSPIRACY AND WAS IN TOUCH WITH GENERAL (R) ROBERTO V I A U X , HEAD OF THE OCTOBER TACNAZO. VIAUX WAS GIVING THE MOVEMENT MORAL SUPPORT AND WAS WAITING FOR IT TO CALL HIM TO COMMAND THE CHILEAN ARMED FORCES.

COMMENT.

IN MID-FEBRUARY THAT GAMBOA AND GENERAL (R) HECTOR M A R T I N E Z WERE HEADING AN ARMY COUP MOVEMENT WHICH MIGHT ACT IN MARCH OR APRIL AND THAT VIAUX MIGHT BE LEADER OF THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT SET UP BY THE GROUP.)

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3. ON 23 OR 24 MARCH THE GROUP ISSUED A PROCLAMATION NAMING VIAUX COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE CHILEAN ARMED FORCES. GAMBOA WAS BEHIND THE PROCLAMATION ALTHOUGH HE WAS NOT NAMED IN IT.

COMMENT.

4. AS A RESULT OF THE PROCLAMATION SOME 12-14 MILITARY PERSONNEL WHO HAD BEEN INVOLVED IN THE GAY STREET MEETING OF

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DECEMBER 1969 AND SOME ENLISTED MEN FROM THE "YUNGAY" REGIMENT IN SAN FELIPE WERE ARRESTED. MAJOR (R) ARTURO M A R - S H A L L , FORMERLY OF THE "YUNGAY" REGIMENT, IS IN HIDING AND IS BEING SOUGHT. AMONG THE ARRESTED WERE LT. COL. EDGARD O F U E N Z A L I D A , CAPT. RAUL D R O G U E T T , LT. JOAQUIN M O L I N A , THREE SERGEANTS FIRST CLASS, ONE CORPORAL, CAPT. (R) ENRIQUE M I R A A D , AND LT. (R) VICTOR C A T A L A N .

5. VIAUX IS AT HOME IN BED IN TRACTION AS THE RESULT OF A RECENT AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT. HIS HOME IS SURROUNDED BY FIFTY MEMBERS OF THE CARABINERO GRUPO MOVIL AND FIFTY DETECTIVES FROM INVESTIGACIONES. ~~REDACTED~~ COMMENT. THIS IS PROBABLY THE END OF VIAUX, POLITICALLY SPEAKING.)

6. THE CARABINEROS ALL OVER THE COUNTRY ARE CONFINED TO QUARTERS IN A STATE OF ALERT AS ARE ALL ARMED FORCES IN SANTIAGO. ~~REDACTED~~ COMMENT. THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THE CARABINEROS ARE LOYAL TO THE GOVERNMENT.) INVESTIGATION AS OF ~~REDACTED~~ 25 MARCH SHOWS THAT NO ONE IN THE NAVY AND AIR FORCE WAS INVOLVED IN THE PLOT.

7. ~~REDACTED~~

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